



November 1, 2006

Charitable Gaming  
Directive No. 4.03.03

## **Millionaire Party (Tournament Texas Hold'em)**

### **BACKGROUND**

Millionaire Party Rule 406(5) states in part: "All of the following millionaire party equipment and games are authorized: (e) Card games approved by the bureau." This directive approves Tournament Texas Hold'em (Texas Hold'em) as a millionaire party card game and establishes instructions for its conduct.

### **DEFINITIONS**

1. "All-In" means a player bets all their chips.
2. "Betting Interval" means the period of play when each player has an opportunity to bet, Check, Raise, Call, or Drop.
3. "Big Blind" means a mandatory bet (typically twice the amount of the Small Blind) placed by the player to the left of the Small Blind position before any cards are dealt.
4. "Board Cards" means the community cards dealt face up in the middle of the table which may be used by all players in constructing a standard five card poker hand.
5. "Burning" means discarding the top card from the deck face down.
6. "Call" means a player places enough chips into the pot to make their contribution equal to the contribution of any other player, but no greater.
7. "Check" means a player remains in the Round of Play but does not wish to place a bet, provided no previous player has made a bet during that Betting Interval.
8. "Dealer Button" means an object used to designate the player in the dealer position if that player were actually dealing the cards.
9. "Drop", also known as fold, means a player discards their Hand and no longer participates in the Round of Play.
10. "Equipment" means the standard 52-card decks of playing cards and the chips used for betting during the conduct of Tournament Texas Hold'em.
11. "Hand" means any combination of two Pocket Cards and/or five Board Cards which are used to create a standard five card poker hand.
12. "Hi/Lo" means a variation of Texas Hold'em in which the highest and lowest poker Hands split the pot (prohibited, see 29).
13. "Pocket Cards" means the two cards dealt face down to each player that can only be used by that player in constructing a standard five card poker hand.
14. "Raise" means a player places enough chips in the pot to Call, plus one or more chips.
15. "Rebuy" means the fee paid by a player to purchase additional chips.
16. "Round of Play" means the period of play commencing with the first card dealt by the dealer and concluding with the awarding of the pot.

17. "Side Pot" means a new pot(s) established by the dealer after a player has gone All-In, and additional bets have been placed.
18. "Small Blind" means a mandatory bet (typically half the amount of the Big Blind) placed by the player immediately to the left of the Dealer Button before any cards are dealt.
19. "Wild Card" means a card that may serve as any other suit or value in making a poker hand (prohibited, see 28).

## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

20. Texas Hold'em shall be conducted with Equipment that is owned by the licensee, donated to the licensee, rented from a licensed supplier, or rented from the location owner/lessee under a bureau approved rental contract.
21. Texas Hold'em shall be conducted as a tournament where all players pay the established buy-in for the same amount of chips.
22. Texas Hold'em shall not be conducted in any manner that assigns a cash redemption value to the chips.
23. Texas Hold'em shall be played with a standard 52-card deck without jokers.
24. Texas Hold'em shall be played at tables large enough to accommodate a dealer and up to ten players in such a manner as to ensure that the players may examine their cards without disclosing their value to other players.
25. Texas Hold'em shall not be conducted outside the hours listed on the license.
26. The order of finish for the tournament shall be determined by one of the following methods:
  - a. If play continues until all but one player is eliminated, the order of finish shall be the order of elimination from last to first. The last remaining player shall be declared the winner.
  - b. If play stops at a set time as defined in the house rules, the order of finish shall be determined by ranking the value of chips held by each player at the end of play from highest to lowest. The player having the highest value of chips shall be declared the winner.
27. A player shall not bet on more than one Hand in any Round of Play.
28. Wild Cards are prohibited.
29. Hi/Lo games are prohibited. Winners shall be determined by the highest ranking poker combination.
30. Rebuys are permitted. The number of allowable Rebuys and the period during which they may be made shall be posted in the house rules.
31. Any dispute concerning Texas Hold'em shall be referred to the chairperson of the millionaire party.

## GAME CONDUCT

32. All suits have the same rank. The rank of cards, from highest to lowest, shall be ace, king, queen, jack, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, except as provided in 51(a) where the ace may be counted low.
33. The dealer shall shuffle the cards prior to each Round of Play.
34. Prior to the first Round of Play, the dealer shall place the Dealer Button in front of the player immediately to the dealer's left. The dealer shall move the Dealer Button to the next player in a clockwise direction prior to commencing each subsequent Round of Play.
35. The player immediately to the left of the Dealer Button shall post the required Small Blind before the beginning of each Round of Play.
36. The player immediately to the left of the Small Blind position shall post the required Big Blind before the beginning of each Round of Play.  
  
**NOTE:** When all but two players have been eliminated from the table, the player with the Dealer Button shall post the Small Blind and the other player shall post the Big Blind.
37. All cards shall be dealt in a clockwise direction beginning with the player immediately to the left of the Dealer Button.
38. The dealer shall commence Betting Interval 1 by Burning a card and then dealing one card to each player face down, then a second card to each player face down.
39. Each player may examine their Pocket Cards at any time.
40. Each player shall keep their Pocket Cards in full view of the dealer at all times and must ensure that they are examined in a manner that does not disclose to other players their value. Players may not exchange information concerning their Hand.
41. Players that Drop from the Round of Play shall not reveal their Pocket Cards.
42. Betting Interval 1 shall proceed as follows:
  - a. The player immediately to the left of the Big Blind position is the first to act and must Call, Raise, or Drop.  
  
**NOTE:** When all but two players have been eliminated from the table, the player with the Dealer Button is the first to act and must Call, Raise, or Drop.
  - b. Betting continues in a clockwise direction until each player has an opportunity to Call, Raise, or Drop with the exception of the player in the Big Blind position who may also Check if no other player has Raised.
43. The dealer shall commence Betting Interval 2 by Burning a card and then dealing three Board Cards face up in the middle of the table, commonly referred to as the Flop.
44. Betting Interval 2 shall proceed as follows:
  - a. The player immediately to the left of the Dealer Button is the first to act and must bet, Check, or Drop.
  - b. Betting continues in a clockwise direction until each player has an opportunity to bet, Check, Call, Raise, or Drop.
45. The dealer shall commence Betting Interval 3 by Burning a card and dealing one Board Card face up, commonly referred to as the Turn.
46. Betting Interval 3 shall proceed as in 44.

47. The dealer shall commence Betting Interval 4 by Burning a card and dealing one Board Card face up, commonly referred to as the River.
48. Betting Interval 4 shall proceed as in 44.
49. Upon completion of four Betting Intervals:
  - a. If only one player remains in the Round of Play, (i.e., all but one player has Dropped), the player is not obligated to show their Hand.
  - b. If two or more players remain in the Round of Play:
    - i. It shall be the obligation of the player who made the last bet to show their Hand.
    - ii. If no player has placed a bet, it shall be the obligation of all players to show their Hands.
50. Any combination of a player's Pocket Cards and/or Board Cards may be used to construct a standard five card poker hand.
51. The dealer shall:
  - a. Declare the last remaining player the winner or determine the winning Hand among the remaining players in accordance with the following ranking of poker combinations:

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Royal Flush    | is a Hand containing an ace, king, queen, jack, and 10 of the same suit.                               |
| Straight Flush | is a Hand containing five cards of the same suit in consecutive ranking. An ace may count high or low. |
| 4 of a Kind    | is a Hand containing four cards of the same rank.  |
| Full House     | is a Hand containing "3 of a Kind" and "1 Pair".   |
| Flush          | is a Hand containing five cards of the same suit but not in consecutive ranking.                       |
| Straight       | is a Hand containing five cards of consecutive rank regardless of suit. An ace may count high or low.  |
| 3 of a Kind    | is a Hand containing three cards of the same rank.   |
| 2 Pair         | is a Hand containing two pairs.  |
| 1 Pair         | is a Hand containing two cards of the same rank.   |
| High Card      | is a Hand that does not contain 1 Pair or better.  |
  - b. Resolve ties in the following manner:
    - i. In the event of equal ranking poker combinations of 4 of a Kind, 3 of a Kind, 2 Pair, or 1 Pair, the high card not used in the poker combination shall break the tie.
    - ii. If a tie cannot be broken, the pot shall be split equally.
  - c. Award the pot(s) to the player(s) with the winning Hand.
52. The dealer shall collect all cards and shuffle them prior to the next Round of Play.
53. The dealer shall move the Dealer Button to the next player in a clockwise direction.

### **ALL-IN / SIDE POTS**

54. If only two players remain in a Round of Play, and one player does not have enough chips to Call the bet made by the other player, then the player with the fewest chips may move All-In and the player with the most chips shall remove enough chips from their bet to make it equal to the bet of the player moving All-In. The Round of Play will then continue with no further betting.
55. If two or more players wish to bet more than the bet of another player moving All-In, the dealer shall establish a Side Pot(s).
  - a. The player moving All-In is eligible to win only the main pot, consisting of the blinds, all previous bets, the bet of the player moving All-In, and the bets of the other players matching the All-In bet.
  - b. The players with chips remaining may continue placing bets into the Side Pot(s) and are eligible to win both the main pot and Side Pot(s).

### **ELIMINATION**

56. A player is eliminated from the tournament when the player has lost all of their chips.

### **MISDEAL**

57. No misdeal may be called after the first bet.
58. In the event of a misdeal, additional blinds shall not be required.

### **HOUSE RULES**

59. House rules must be in accordance with Millionaire Party Rule 407 and shall also contain the following information:
  - a. Buy-in and amount of chips received.
  - b. If Rebuys are permitted, a statement that includes the following:
    - i. The number of allowable Rebuys.
    - ii. The purchase price for each Rebuy.
    - iii. The amount of chips received with each Rebuy.
    - iv. The period of time that Rebuys are permitted.
  - c. The time that the tournament will end or a statement that the tournament will continue until all but one player is eliminated.
  - d. The amount of the blinds and the progression of increase in the blinds.
  - e. Raises are limited to three per Betting Interval.
  - f. The prize payout schedule.
  - g. All other information essential to a player's understanding of how the tournament will be conducted.

## REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

60. If Tournament Texas Hold'em is the only game conducted under the millionaire party license, the licensee shall complete the following forms:
  - a. Workers Service Record (BSL-CG-1724).
  - b. Tournament Texas Hold'em Admission / Buy-In Fees (BSL-CG-2014).
  - c. Tournament Texas Hold'em Rebuy Fees (BSL-CG-2013), if applicable.
  - d. Millionaire Party Financial Statement (BSL-CG-422).
61. If millionaire party games other than Tournament Texas Hold'em are also conducted, all forms contained in the Millionaire Party Forms Packet (BSL-CG-1608) must be completed.
62. Total Admission / Buy-In Fees and Rebuy Fees shall be reported on line 3 of the Millionaire Party Financial Statement.
63. A copy of the house rules shall be retained with the game records.

Signed copy available upon request

---

Gary C. Peters, Lottery Commissioner

---

Date